CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/ [redacted] 25X1

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY USSR (Kemerovo Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 19 Feb 1952

SUBJECT Metallurgical Plant in Stalinsk

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

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25X1X [redacted] the metallurgical plant in Stalinsk (87°07'E/53°46'N), Kemerovo Oblast, as "Stan 240". Source did not know of any other name or designation of the plant. The total plant area was estimated at 2 x 1 km. One source learned from displays in the city museum of Stalinsk that the construction of the plant was started in 1930. (1)

2. The plant was equipped with six or eight blast furnaces each with three air heaters. The blast furnaces were 30 to 35 meters high and were equipped with conveyors for charging. (2)

3. One source described the open-hearth plant as being 180 x 60 meters, a steel and masonry building with skylights and equipped with 18 furnaces, 15 of which were in operation at one time. These furnaces were 4 x 4 meters and were lined with fire brick. The furnaces were operated from a ramp located above and somewhat behind the furnaces. Behind the furnaces there were pipe lines which according to the inscriptions, were gas-heating pipes. There were also three overhead cranes and, at one end of the hall, a large machine which cut white-hot steel blocks into three parts. The blades of this machine were specially cooled. The steel blocks were transported in electrically operated, fire-proof trucks. The hall had a railroad connection. According to the second source, the open-hearth plant was housed in a building 100 x 150 x 20 meters which was about 10 years old and was in good condition. This source stated that the open-hearth plant was equipped with 15 gas furnaces which were iron structures, 4 x 4 x 5 meters in size, and were lined with fire brick. (3)

4. One source stated that the rolling mill was a steel-frame brick structure, 150 x 140 meters, resting on a concrete foundation and was equipped with an undetermined number of annealing furnaces, three sets of rollers for hoop iron (Bandeisen) and a set of rollers for structural steel. Source observed the production of rails in this department. This source also reported three other work halls, each 150 meters long and of steel-frame brick construction, which housed the tin plate rolling mills. These halls were equipped with a set of rollers each and several annealing furnaces. Plate and tin were stored in these buildings. All three workshops had railroad connections. According to the second source, the rolling mill was 300 x 150 x 20 meters and was

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equipped with three sets of rollers, one for rails, one for steel plates 2 to 3 meters long and 2-cm thick, and one for round steel (Rundstahl). The concrete foundation for a fourth set of rollers was being erected. The rollers had not yet been delivered. Each set of rollers was provided with a gas-fired annealing furnace. Four cranes, each of about 10 tons capacity, travelled the length of the hall on four tracks. Three of these tracks extended to the open-hearth plant. (5)

5. At the end of 1949 four or five new workshops were under construction. Judged by the excavation, these shops would have a length of about 150 meters each. The concrete foundations were 4.5 meters deep and 2 meters wide. The heavy steel girders for this project were already stored within the plant area. Since the machinery and the equipment for these shops were not yet delivered their ultimate purpose could not be determined. It appeared that construction work on these shops was being accelerated. (5)

6. Among other railroad equipment, the plant used diesel locomotives and special cars for the transportation of red hot materials. Inter-plant traffic was heavy. The metallurgical plant did not have its own power plant but was supplied by a power plant located several kilometers away. During the period of observation, the power supply did not meet the requirements of the plant. Interruptions in the supply of power for one hour, or longer, were frequent. (6)

7. Hoop iron of various dimensions, rails, steel plates approximately 25-mm to 30-mm thick, and sheet steel, 1.5-mm thick were produced. Production figures were not known. Several freight trains with a capacity of 60 tons per car loaded with iron-ore of rust brown color arrived daily. In addition there were deliveries of hard coal, coke and a granulated substance which was red-yellow in color, like sulphur. There was no shortage of iron-ore.

8. The open-hearth plant employed 200 Soviet civilians, half of them women, in each of the three shifts. Fifty PWs worked on concrete constructions. The rolling mill employed 250 to 300 Soviet civilians, 50 percent of whom were women, in each of the three shifts. Fifty PWs were employed for construction work. (7)

25X1A [redacted] Comments.

(1) The designation "Stan 21.9" is reported for the first time. The plant is officially known as "Kurnetski Metallurgicheski Kombinat imeni Stalina". The location of the plant was previously reported. Information regarding the size of the plant agrees with earlier reports.

(2) According to previous information the plant was equipped with only four blast furnaces. It is believed that source mistook cooling towers for blast furnaces.

(3) According to previous reports, the open-hearth department had only 15 furnaces. It is not known whether or not additional furnaces were set up after 1948.

(4) According to previous reports, there were five sets of rolling mills all housed in one building.

(5) This is the first time construction work for the extension of the plant has been reported. The Soviet newspaper Isvestia reported on 28 December 1949 that the plant was able to increase production considerably for 1949 without expanding any of the plant installations. Nevertheless, it is possible that new construction work might have been started by the end of 1949.

(6) Information of both sources regarding the power plant, contradicts previous information. According to available records, a large power plant is located on the southern boundary of the plant area, in the Sadgorod section of the town.

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This power plant supplied the "Stalin" metallurgical plant as well as a number of coal mines and electric railroad lines.

(7) This report in general does not agree with previous information. However, this is the first information concerning this plant which has been received since mid-1940 and it is possible that new construction and improvements have been made since 1948.

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